



**CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM**

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DATE: August 27, 1996

TO: Stakeholder Fisheries Representatives  
See Attached List

FROM: Wendy Halverson Martin  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program *WHM*

SUBJECT: Participation in Developing Fish Assessment Methods  
for Use in CALFED's Programmatic EIR/EIS

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is in the process of developing an assessment process for various resource categories--including fisheries--to be used in the programmatic assessment of the three preliminary CALFED alternatives. For fishery resources, CALFED has met with key agency representatives and fishery experts to share information and receive suggestions on the assessment process. In an effort to identify the most suitable and widely accepted assessment methods for fishery resources, both CALFED and agency fish experts believe that stakeholders should be invited to participate in this process.

Accordingly, you are invited to participate in the development of the assessment process for fishery resources. CALFED believes that your participation will provide an integral role in the success of the fisheries impact assessment process that will be used in CALFED's Programmatic Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). Your input and perspectives will be greatly appreciated.

Enclosed for your review is the information and assessment methods packet recently provided to agency representatives. Included in this packet are a revised species list, an assessment variable list for each species (except for those species which have been recently added) and the assessment tools which have been identified for measuring the assessment variables. CALFED has asked the agency representatives to review and comment on this package and provide the following information:

- Review the assessment variable lists for each species. Add any additional assessment variables for each species. Rank the assessment variables for each species from 1 to 3.

1 = The variable is definitely important in the assessment process.

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**CALFED Agencies**

**California**

The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game  
Department of Water Resources  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
State Water Resources Control Board

**Federal**

Environmental Protection Agency  
Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Department of Commerce  
National Marine Fisheries Service

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- 2 = The variable may be important in the assessment process and needs further discussion.
  - 3 = The variable is not very important in the assessment process and should be dropped from further consideration.
- Identify any assessment methods which are not currently identified, for important assessment variables for each species.
  - Prepare new assessment variable lists for those species for which you have expertise and which do not currently have them. Rank the assessment variables in these new lists.

The time frame for completing this work is short. Impact analysis will be conducted between October 1996 and March 1997. Assessment methods must be available and usable during this period. We have asked agency fish experts to provide their comments on this material to CALFED by September 3, 1996 and would also like to hear from you by that time. Information recieved by September 3rd will be compiled and distributed prior to the next scheduled fish assessment methods meeting on September 13, 1996. The meeting on September 13, 1996 will be from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon (see attached meeting anouncement with map). In keeping with the established format, this meeting will be a focused work session. We ask that you review the materials which will be sent out for this meeting and be prepared to discuss and comment on them at the meeting.

CALFED staff and consultants are available to assist you in any way we can, and we look forward to your continuing input throughout the development of the Programmatic EIR/EIS. If you have any questions, please call me at (916) 657-2666.

Attachments

## **STAKEHOLDER FISHERIES REPRESENTATIVES DISTRIBUTION LIST:**

Mr. Bill Alevizon, Bay Institute of San Francisco  
Mr. Randy Bailey, Consultant  
Dr. Peter Baker, EA Engineering Science & Technology  
Mr. Serge Birk, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Mr. Paul Bratovich, Hydrologic Consultants Incorporated  
Dr. Jim Buell, Buell & Associates  
Mr. Steve Cramer, S.P. Cramer & Associates  
Dr. Chuck Hanson, Hanson Environmental  
Ms. Sharon Kramer, Metropolitan Water District  
Mr. Dave Vogel, Natural Resource Scientists  
Mr. Tom Taylor, Trihey & Associates